



STATE OF IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

1410 North Hilton • Boise, Idaho 83706-1255 • (208) 373-0502

Dirk Kempthorne, Governor
C. Stephen Allred, Director

August 10, 2001

The Honorable Robert G. Card
Under Secretary of Energy
U. S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue
Washington, DC 20585

Re: Extension Request for Pit 9 Dispute Resolution

Dear Mr. Card:

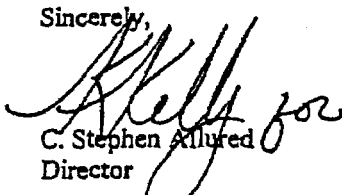
This is in response to your letter of August 6, 2001 and a call from Assistant Secretary Roberson, regarding the Pit 9 project at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory. Timely resolution of environmental problems from historic activities at INEEL, including waste buried in the Subsurface Disposal Area, is of great importance to the State of Idaho.

Your letter requested a 60-day extension of the time period within which DOE can elevate the current Pit 9 dispute to the Governor of Idaho under paragraph 9.2(F) of the 1991 Federal Facility Agreement/Consent Order. You proposed to devote additional resources and key personnel to try to resolve the dispute without further elevation. Because of your personal attention to the matter and these commitments, I agreed to extend the time for elevating the dispute until October 12, 2001. On August 29, I will meet in Boise with representatives designated by Assistant Secretary Roberson in an effort to move discussions forward.

Please note that in granting DOE's request, I am not changing the terms of my July 23 Memorandum Decision and Order. For example, by October 21, 2001, DOE must still identify the schedule and cost basis that will enable your agency to meet the objectives of Stage II of the Pit 9 project.

If you have further questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,


C. Stephen Allred
Director

Cc: Governor Dirk Kempthorne
Jessie Roberson, USDOE Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management
Chuck Findley, USEPA Region 10 Acting Regional Administrator
Kathleen Trever, State Coordinator for INEEL Issues
Orville Green, DEQ Waste Program Administrator
Bev Cook, USDOE Idaho Operations Office Manager